

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DOHA 01300 221246Z

47

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 NSCE-00 CPR-01 SP-02

SCA-01 VO-03 PRS-01 SAM-01 INRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 /047 W

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O 221225Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1016

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DOHA 1300

NEA DUTY OFFICER PLEASE ALERT ARP DIRECTOR DICKMAN TO THIS
MESSAGE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, QA, US, TC

SUBJ: DEPOSED RULER OF QATAR'S VISIT TO U.S.

REF: ABU DHABI 2389

1. REFTEL NOT RPT NOT RECEIVED IN DOHA UNTIL AFTERNOON OF
NOV 22. I WOULD HAVE APPRECIATED BEING MORE PROMPTLY INFORMED
ABOUT SHAYKH AHMAD'S TRAVEL, PARTICULARLY SINCE IT APPEARS
THAT VISAS MAY HAVE BEEN ISSUED FIVE OR SIX DAYS AGO.

2. I WILL INFORM THE PALACE LATER THIS AFTERNOON ABOUT SHAYKH
AHMAD'S POSSIBLE TRAVEL TO U.S., ASSURING THAT IT HAS NO
OFFICIAL CHARACTER AND THAT PARTY WILL BE TREATED AS ORDINARY
TOURISTS. ANYWAY, BY THIS TIME QATARIS HAVE PROBABLY LEARNED
ABOUT TRIP THROUGH THEIR OWN CONTACTS IN DUBAI.

3. ALTHOUGH I APPRECIATE ABU DHABI'S DESIRE THAT SHAYKH RASHID'S
DAUGHTER RECEIVE POSITIVE IMPRESSION OF U.S., THIS CANNOT BE
AT ANY EXPENSE TO OUR RELATIONS WITH GOQ. THEREFORE, I MUST
INSIST THAT THERE BE NO RPT NO OFFICIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF
PRESENCE OF PARTY IN U.S., AND THEREFORE THAT NO RPT NO
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COURTESIES BE EXTENDED.

4. NEA IS WELL AWARE OF CONTINUING SENSITIVITY OF HIGH LEVEL GOQ OFFICIALS TO WHAT THEY REGARD AS LACK OF ATTENTION PAID TO THEM WHEN THEY VISIT U.S.; JUST TWO DAYS AGO MINISTER OF FINANCE AND PETROLEUM AND AMIR'S SON, SHAYKH ABDUL AZIZ, EXPRESSED TO ME HIS KEEN DISAPPOINTMENT IN THIS REGARD (SEPTEL). IN THIS ATMOSPHERE ANY SPECIAL TREATMENT ACCORDED TO PARTY OF DEPOSED RULER WOULD BE ILL RECEIVED HERE TO SAY THE LEAST.

5. AS A LAST THOUGHT, IT OCCURS TO ME THAT SHAYKH AHMAD'S TRAVEL MAY BE CONNECTED WITH PRESENT RULER SHAYKH KHALIFA'S POSSIBLE VISIT TO UAE. WE HEAR VISIT MAY TAKE PLACE AROUND DEC 1. PERHAPS AHMAD BEING PACKED OFF TO AVOID ANY EMBARRASSMENT TO HOST AND VISITOR. NEVERTHELESS, USG MUST STEER CLEAR OF AHMAD AND COMPANY FOR THE GREATER CAUSE OF US/QATARI RELATIONS. PAGANELLI

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